



**TESTIMONY OF S. DEREK PHELPS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

SUBMITTED TO THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Good morning Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, ranking members, and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology Committee. My name is Derek Phelps; I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut Siting Council.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and speak in favor of Raised H.B. No. 775, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF THE CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL REPORT OF LOADS AND RESOURCES BIENNIALY.

This bill seeks to change the frequency by which the Council's Forecast of Loads Report must be published. It should be noted that this was a legislative proposal last year.

Specifically, this bill would adjust the statute regarding our agency's annual requirement to publish a 10-Year Forecast of Loads and Resources Report to a biennial basis. This would be an improvement to our agency's reporting requirements for several reasons.

The Council is proud of its work with respect to its Forecast of Loads and Resources Report which provides a thorough 10-year forecast on estimated generation needs and anticipated solutions to meet those needs. Frankly, we believe that during the last several years we have significantly improved this report in both its usefulness and scope. However, the process necessary to compile the information takes most of the year; and – because the current law requires such a report the next year – the process is almost immediately started again the following year.

Because the report is developed for a 10-year period we believe that changing the publication requirement to an every-other-year schedule would not measurably compromise the usefulness of the report in the alternating year. On the contrary, we

believe that compiling the report on a biennium schedule would better serve the goal of accuracy and usefulness to its intended audience by facilitating a more fresh perspective when returning to the process.

Finally, compiling this report consists of also holding a public hearing complete with a transcriptionist and audio technician, publishing a legal advertisement in several newspapers in connection with the public hearing, hiring a graphic designer, and paying for printing costs. Without calculating staff hours which can be directed elsewhere during the year, the savings to our agency every other year would be approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Thank you for this opportunity to appear before this committee. I would be pleased to respond to any questions.

REFERENCE NOTES

FORECAST REPORT EXPENSES (not including staff hours)					
	Forecast 2008	Forecast 2007	Forecast 2006	Forecast 2005	Forecast 2004
Graphic Design/ Printing	\$13,498	\$18,311	\$10,876	\$8,688	\$4,774
Advertising	\$9,344	\$9,219	\$8,286	\$8,784	\$6,686
Transcription	\$1,496	\$789	\$781	\$1,803	\$630
Audio Tech.	\$1,996	\$631	0.00	\$1,154.	0.00
Council Attendance	\$2,567	\$1,315	\$1,150	\$2,562	\$1,149
Meeting Exp.	\$395	\$275	\$54	\$1,457	\$49
TOTALS	\$29,296	\$30,540	\$21,147	\$24,448	\$13,288